UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2137	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/656,593	GOLDMAN, OLIVER
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Techane J. Gergiso TG	2137	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *July 05, 2006.*

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-48* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-48* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is a second non-final Office Action is response to the applicant's amendment filed on July 05, 2006.

2. Claims 1-48 have been reexamined.

3. Claims 1-48 are pending.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 1, 20, 26 and 43 are objected to because of the following informalities: The claims read "the digital **signal** module". The word "**signal**" needs to be replaced by **signature**. Appropriate correction is required.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international

application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7.   Claims 1-7, 18, 20, 26-32 and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being fully anticipated by Kinnis et al. (hereinafter referred to as Kinnis; US. Pat. No.: 6,959,382).

As per claim 1:

Kinnis discloses a computer implemented method, comprising:

accessing an electronic document using a user application, the electronic document including a digital signature module, the digital signal module being operable to perform a digital signal operations on the electronic document (Column 2: lines 40-56; Column 5: lines 5-15,55-67; Figure 5: 520, 10; Figure 9: 910, 925, 930, 935); and

using the digital signature module to perform one or more digital signature operations on the electronic document in the user application (Column 10: lines 27-58; Figure 9: 975, 945).

As per claim 2:

Kinnis discloses a method, wherein using the digital signature module includes:

validating the digital signature module (Column 9: lines 40-63); and

using the digital signature module to perform digital signature operations only if the digital signature module is validated (Column 9: lines 40-65).

As per claim 3:

Kinnis discloses a method, wherein:

using the digital signature module includes signing the electronic document (Column

2: lines 1-17).

As per claim 4:

Kinnis discloses a method, wherein:

using the digital signature module includes authenticating a digital signature in the

electronic document (Column 1: lines 35-60).

As per claim 5:

Kinnis discloses a method, wherein:

using the digital signature module includes using the digital signature module running on

a server (Column 4: lines 40-62).

As per claim 6:

Kinnis discloses a method, wherein:

including the digital signature module includes including a reference to the digital

signature module (Figure 9: 975).

As per claim 7:

Kinnis discloses a method, wherein using the digital signature module to perform a

digital signature operation includes:

receiving a request to perform a digital signature operation (Column 4: lines 66-67;

Figure 2: 230-250, 130, 100, 140, 125).

determining whether the requested digital signature operation is authorized (Figure 8: 820-855); and

if the digital signature operation is authorized, using the digital signature module to perform the requested digital signature operation (Figure 6: 650).

As per claim 18:

Kinnis discloses a method, a electronic document, comprising:

electronic content (Column 4: lines 22-39); and

a digital signature module, the digital signature module being operable upon loading to perform digital signature operations on the electronic content (Column 2: lines 40-56; Column 5: lines 5-15,55-67; Figure 5: 520, 10; Figure 9: 910, 925, 930, 935; Column 10: lines 27-58; Figure 9: 975, 945).

As per claim 20:

Kinnis discloses a computer implemented method, comprising:

receiving a signed electronic document, the electronic document including a digital signature module and a digital signature generated by the digital signature module the digital signal module being operable to perform a digital signal operations on the electronic document (Figure 3; 140, 100, 140, 150, 700; figure 9: 900; Column 9: lines 13-30);

accessing the electronic document in a user application (Figure 3: 140, 100, 140, 150700; Figure 9: 900; Column 9: lines 13-30); and

validating the digital signature using the digital signature module in the user application

(Figure 3: 140, 100, 140, 150700; figure 9: 900; Column 9: lines 37-64).

As per claim 26:

Claim 26 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 1. Therefore, claim 26 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 1.

As per claim 27:

Claim 27 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 2. Therefore, claim 27 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 2.

As per claim 28:

Claim 28 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 3. Therefore, claim 28 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 3.

As per claim 29:

Claim 29 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 4. Therefore, claim 29 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 4.

As per claim 30:

Claim 30 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 5. Therefore, claim 30 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 5.

As per claim 31:

Claim 31 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 6. Therefore, claim 31 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 6.

As per claim 32:

Claim 32 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium that corresponds and substantially similar · to its method claim 7. Therefore, claim 7 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 32.

As per claim 43:

Claim 43 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium, the computer program product that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 20. Therefore, claim 20 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 43.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

9.   Claims 8-11, 19 and 33-36 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kinnis et al. (hereinafter referred to as Kinnis; US. Pat. No.: 6,959,382) in view of Carter (US Pat. No.: 5,787,175).

As per claim 8:

Kinnis does not explicitly disclose determining whether the requested digital signature operation is authorized includes determining whether the requested digital signature operation is authorized based on rights information associated with the digital signature module, the user application, or the electronic document. Carter, in analogous art, however, discloses determining

whether the requested digital signature operation is authorized includes determining whether the requested digital signature operation is authorized based on rights information associated with the digital signature module, the user application, or the electronic document (Figure 4: 96; Figure 5: 96; Figure 6-7: 110-128; column 12: lines 56-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system disclosed by Kinnis to include using the digital signature module includes determining whether the requested digital signature operation is authorized includes determining whether the requested digital signature operation is authorized based on rights information associated with the digital signature module, the user application, or the electronic document. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so to provide a method and apparatus which limit access to work group documents to those people who are expected to contribute directly to the document as suggested by Carter in (Column 5: lines 20-30).

As per claim 9:

Kinnis discloses a method, wherein:

the rights information is operable to specify the digital signature operations that can be performed on the electronic document (Column 5: lines 1-16).

As per claim 10:

Carter discloses a method, wherein:

the rights information is operable to specify constraints on the digital signature operations

that can be performed on the electronic document (Figure 2: 44).

As per claim 11:

Carter discloses a method, wherein:

using the digital signature module includes performing a digital signature operation on a

portion of the electronic document or on a user added content portion of the

electronic document (Column 6: lines 16-35).

As per claim 19:

Kinnis does not explicitly disclose rights information, the rights information being

operable to enable one or more operations on the electronic document, the one or more

operations including using the digital signature module to sign the electronic document. Carter,

in analogous art, however, discloses rights information, the rights information being operable to

enable one or more operations on the electronic document, the one or more operations including

using the digital signature module to sign the electronic document (Figure 4: 96; Figure 5: 96;

Figure 6-7: 110-128; column 12: lines 56-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to modify the system disclosed by Kinnis to include rights

information, the rights information being operable to enable one or more operations on the

electronic document, the one or more operations including using the digital signature module to

sign the electronic document This modification would have been obvious because a person

having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so to provide a method and apparatus which limit access to work group documents to those people who are expected to contribute directly to the document as suggested by Carter in (Column 5: lines 20-30).

As per claim 33:

Claim 33 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 8. Therefore, claim 8 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 33.

As per claim 34:

Claim 34 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 9. Therefore, claim 9 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 34.

As per claim 35:

Claim 33 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 10. Therefore, claim 10 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 35.

As per claim 36:

Claim 36 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 11. Therefore, claim 11 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 36.

10.   Claims 12, 13, 23-25, 37, 38 and 46-48 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kinnis et al. (hereinafter referred to as Kinnis; US. Pat. No.: 6,959,382) in view of Susaki et al (hereinafter referred to as Susaki; US Pat. No.: 6,253,322).

As per claims 12 and 24:

Kinnis does not explicitly disclose receiving input adding content to the electronic document in the user application, wherein using the digital signature module includes performing a digital signature operation on the added content. Susaki, in analogous art, however, discloses receiving input adding content to the electronic document in the user application, wherein using the digital signature module includes performing a digital signature operation on the added content (Column 13: lines 10-31; Figure 9C: 163). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system disclosed by Kinnis to include receiving input adding content to the electronic document in the user application, wherein using the digital signature module includes performing a digital signature operation on the added content. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so to provide implement

certification and authentication services (electronic information signing and archiving services)

necessary in dealing with electronic commerce in an opening network environment as suggested

by Susaki in (Column 2: lines 44-48).

As per claims 13 and 25:

>Kinnis discloses a method, wherein:

>receiving input modifying content of the electronic document in the user application,

>>wherein using the digital signature module includes performing the digital

>>signature operations on the modified content (Figure 9: 975).

As per claim 23:

>Kinnis discloses a method, wherein:

>>performing the digital signature operation includes performing the digital

>signature operation on a portion of the electronic document (Figure 5: 100); and

>>transmitting the electronic document includes transmitting only the portion of the

>electronic document on which the digital signature operation is performed (Figure 5: 140).

>Kinnis does not explicitly disclose transmitting only the portion of the electronic

document on which the digital signature operation is performed. Susaki, in analogous art,

however, discloses transmitting only the portion of the electronic document on which the digital

signature operation is performed (Figure 9A: 161; Figure 9B: 162; Figure 9C: 163)). Therefore,

it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention

was made to modify the system disclosed by Kinnis to include transmitting only the portion of the electronic document on which the digital signature operation is performed. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so to provide implement certification and authentication services (electronic information signing and archiving services) necessary in dealing with electronic commerce in an opening network environment as suggested by Susaki in (Column 2: lines 44-48).

As per claim 37:

Claim 36 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 12. Therefore, claim 12 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 37.

As per claim 38:

Claim 36 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 13. Therefore, claim 13 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 38.

As per claim 46:

Claim 44 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium, the computer program product that corresponds and

substantially similar to its method claim 23. Therefore, claim 23 is rejected with the same

rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 46.

As per claim 47:

Claim 47 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly

embodied in a computer readable medium, the computer program product that corresponds and

substantially similar to its method claim 24. Therefore, claim 24 is rejected with the same

rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 47.

As per claim 48

Claim 48 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly

embodied in a computer readable medium, the computer program product that corresponds and

substantially similar to its method claim 24. Therefore, claim 24 is rejected with the same

rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 48.

11.   Claims 14 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kinnis

et al. (hereinafter referred to as Kinnis; US. Pat. No.: 6,959,382) in view of Parmelee et al

(hereinafter referred to as Parmelee ; US. Pub. No.: 2002/0129256).

As per claim 14:

Kinnis does not explicitly disclose the electronic document is a PDF document.

Parmelee, in analogous art, however, discloses the electronic document is a PDF document

(Column 13: lines 10-31; Figure 9C: 163). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system disclosed by Kinnis to include the electronic document is a PDF document. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so to provide a system and method which can be easily employed by individuals for protecting electronic documents as suggested by Parmelee in (Page 1: 0009-0012).

As per claim 39:

Claim 39 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 14. Therefore, claim 14 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 39.

12.   Claims 15, 16, 21, 22, 40, 41, 44 and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kinnis et al. (hereinafter referred to as Kinnis; US. Pat. No.: 6,959,382) in view of Cocotis et al (hereinafter referred to as Cocotis; US. Pub. No.:2002/0112162).

As per claim 15:

Kinnis discloses a computer implemented method, comprising:

providing a first version of the electronic document to a recipient, the first version including the embedded digital signature module (Column 2: lines 40-56; Column 5: lines 5-15,55-67; Figure 5: 520, 10; Figure 9: 910, 925, 930, 935); and

receiving a second version of the electronic document, the second version including digital signature information indicating that a digital signature operation has been performed on the electronic document using the embedded digital signature module (Column 10: lines 27-58; Figure 9: 975, 945).

Kinnis does not explicitly disclose embedding a digital signature module in an electronic document, the digital signature module being operable to perform one or more digital signature operations on the electronic document. Cocotis, in analogous art, however, disclose embedding a digital signature module in an electronic document, the digital signature module being operable to perform one or more digital signature operations on the electronic document (Page 5: 0048; Page 5: 0049, 61, 67). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system disclosed by Kinnis to include embedding a digital signature module in an electronic document, the digital signature module being operable to perform one or more digital signature operations on the electronic document. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so to provide a technique for securely delivering Web page content from a first computer (e.g., a server computer) to a second computer (e.g., a client computer) through, for example, the Internet to ensure that only the intended content is displayed to the user as suggested by Cocotis in (Page 2: 0017).

As per claim 16:

Kinnis discloses a method, wherein:

the digital signature module is signed using a digital signature (Column 2: lines 1-17).

As per claim 21:

Kinnis discloses a method, wherein:

performing a digital signature operation embedding digital signature information in the electronic document, the digital signature operation being performed using the digital signature module after optionally modifying the electronic document (Column 2: lines 40-56; Column 5: lines 5-15,55-67; Figure 5: 520, 10; Figure 9: 910, 925, 930, 935); and

transmitting the electronic document, including the embedded digital signature module and the digital signature information (Figure 5: 140).

Kinnis does not explicitly disclose embedding a digital signature module. Cocotis, in analogous art, however, disclose embedding a digital signature module (Page 5: 0048; Page 5: 0049, 61, 67). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system disclosed by Kinnis to include embedding a digital signature module in an electronic document. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so to provide a technique for securely delivering Web page content from a first computer (e.g., a server computer) to a second computer (e.g., a client computer) through, for example, the Internet to ensure that only the intended content is displayed to the user as suggested by Cocotis in (Page 2: 0017).

As per claim 22:

Kinnis discloses a method, wherein:

receiving a signed electronic document includes receiving the signed electronic document as a user in a multi-user sequence defined by a workflow (Figure 9: 940, 945); and

transmitting the electronic document includes transmitting the electronic document to another user in the workflow (Figure 9: 960, 975).

As per claim 40:

Claim 40 is a computer program product tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium, the computer program product that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 15. Therefore, claim 15 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 40.

As per claim 41:

Claim 41 is a computer program product tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium, the computer program product that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 16. Therefore, claim 16 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 41.

As per claim 44:

Claim 44 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly

embodied in a computer readable medium, the computer program product that corresponds and

substantially similar to its method claim 21. Therefore, claim 21 is rejected with the same

rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 44.

As per claim 45:

Claim 44 is a computer program product implementing a user application, tangibly

embodied in a computer readable medium, the computer program product that corresponds and

substantially similar to its method claim 22. Therefore, claim 22 is rejected with the same

rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 45.

13.   Claims 17 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kinnis

et al. (hereinafter referred to as Kinnis; US. Pat. No.: 6,959,382) in view of Cocotis et al

(hereinafter referred to as Cocotis; US. Pub. No.: 2002/0112162) and in further view of Carter

(US Pat. No.: 5,787,175)

As per claim 17:

Kinnis and Cocotis do not explicitly disclose embedding rights information in the

electronic document, the rights information being operable to enable a set of rights required to

perform the digital signature operations. Carter, in analogous art, however, discloses embedding

rights information in the electronic document, the rights information being operable to enable a

set of rights required to perform the digital signature operations (Figure 4: 96; Figure 5: 96; Figure 6-7: 110-128; column 12: lines 56-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system disclosed by Kinnis and Cocotis to include embedding rights information in the electronic document, the rights information being operable to enable a set of rights required to perform the digital signature operations. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so to provide a method and apparatus which limit access to work group documents to those people who are expected to contribute directly to the document as suggested by Carter in (Column 5: lines 20-30).

As per claim 42:

Claim 42 is a computer program product tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium, the computer program product that corresponds and substantially similar to its method claim 17. Therefore, claim 17 is rejected with the same rationale and reason given to reject its corresponding method claim 42.
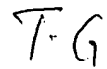
Conclusion

14.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

See the notice of reference cited in form PTO-892 for additional prior art

Contact Information

15.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Techane J. Gergiso whose telephone number is (571) 272-3784

and fax number is (571) 273-3784. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor,

Emmanuel Moise can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization

where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

<div align="right">

T. G

Techane Gergiso

Patent Examiner

Art Unit 2137

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September 16, 2006

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EMMANUEL L. MOISE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

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